

Dkt. 66420-A CCD

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michiaki Shinotsuka

Serial No.: 10/674,699

Group Art Unit 1774

Filed : September 29, 2003

Examiner E. Mulvaney

For : PHASE-CHANGE OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM AND INFORMATION RECORDING AND READING METHOD USING THE RECORDING MEDIUM

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

1185 Ave. of the Americas  
New York, N.Y. 10036  
April 21, 2004

Commissioner for Patents,  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated February 18, 2004, in the above-identified application, applicants are submitting herewith a Terminal Disclaimer and the requisite fee. The submission of this Terminal Disclaimer overcomes the rejection of claim 15 for obviousness-type double patenting. A check in payment of the terminal disclaimer fee of \$110 is also enclosed.

Since this is the only ground of rejection set forth in the Office Action, it is believed that the submission of the Terminal Disclaimer places the application in condition for immediate allowance. Favorable action thereon is accordingly courteously requested.

Respectfully,

Christopher C. Dunham  
Christopher C. Dunham  
Reg. No. 22,031  
Attorney for Applicant  
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I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited this date with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Christopher C. Dunham  
Christopher C. Dunham, Reg. No. 22,031  
Date April 22, 2004

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**TERMINAL DISCLAIMER TO OBVIATE A DOUBLE PATENTING**  
**REJECTION OVER A PRIOR PATENT**
Docket Number (Optional)  
66420-A CCD

In re Application of: Michiaki Shinotsuka

Application No.: 10/674,699

Filed: 09/29/2003

APR 26 2004

For: PHASE-CHANGE OPTICAL INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM AND INFORMATION RECORDING AND READING METHOD USING THE RECORDING MEDIUM

The owner\*, RICOH COMPANY, LTD., of 100 percent interest in the instant application hereby disclaims, except as provided below, the terminal part of the statutory term of any patent granted on the instant application, which would extend beyond the expiration date of the full statutory term defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, of prior Patent No. 6,652,948. The owner hereby agrees that any patent so granted on the instant application shall be enforceable only for and during such period that it and the prior patent are commonly owned. This agreement runs with any patent granted on the instant application and is binding upon the grantee, its successors or assigns.

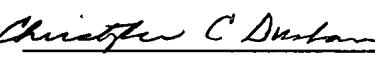
In making the above disclaimer, the owner does not disclaim the terminal part of any patent granted on the instant application that would extend to the expiration date of the full statutory term as defined in 35 U.S.C. 154 and 173 of the prior patent, as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer, in the event that it later: expires for failure to pay a maintenance fee, is held unenforceable, is found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, is statutorily disclaimed in whole or terminally disclaimed under 37 CFR 1.321, has all claims canceled by a reexamination certificate, is reissued, or is in any manner terminated prior to the expiration of its full statutory term as presently shortened by any terminal disclaimer.

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I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

2.  The undersigned is an attorney or agent of record.


Christopher C. Dunham 4/22/04

Signature

Date

Christopher C. Dunham, Reg. No. 22,031

Typed or printed name

(212) 278-0400

Telephone Number

Terminal disclaimer fee under 37 CFR 1.20(d) included.

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\*Statement under 37 CFR 3.73(b) is required if terminal disclaimer is signed by the assignee (owner).  
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.321. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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